

# Archaeology Brown Bag Lecture

Department of Anthropology UW-Madison

## Zooarchaeology from Hispania to Graecia

by

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12-1pm Room 5230  
Sewell Social

Science Bldg UW-Madison



This talk presents snapshots of several ongoing research projects which study human-animal relations through zooarchaeology to gain insight into daily life and lived experience in the ancient Mediterranean. This work investigates urban and domestic foodways, trade, and cultural, socio-economic, and gender disparities in the Roman world, from Spain to Greece. Beginning with fallow deer networks in Tarraco (modern Tarragona, Spain), we will move to a discussion of hinterland settlements around Lixus (modern Larache, Morocco), before exploring garden reconstruction (Casa della Carolina Regina) in Pompeii. We will end with an examination of a Late Roman cattle herd on the Anatolian plateau (Peynirymez, Turkey) and sacrificial(?) well at the Athenian Agora (Greece). Each of these sites provides unique insights into how animals were integrated into the social and economic fabric of ancient communities. Zooarchaeology offers an essential lens for reconstructing human experiences, allowing us to trace patterns of diet, economy, belief, and identity that may otherwise be invisible in the traditional historical or architectural record. As much of this work is ongoing, today's presentation will focus on a range of questions that can be addressed by zooarchaeological analysis, with some discussion of preliminary findings from each location.